GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:46
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007
INDUSTRY STATUS TO TOURISM
Mane Smt. Nivedita;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who arrived in the country and the revenue earned therefrom during 2006-07;

(b) whether tourism has been accorded the industry status;

(c) if so, whether the Government has proposals to boost up the development of this industry by giving suitable incentives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a), (b), (c) and (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.46 ANSWERED ON 01.03.2007 REGARDING INDUSTRY STATUS TO TOURISM.

(a): The estimated number of foreign tourist arrivals to India during 2006 is 4.43 million. The foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 2006 is estimated at US$ 6569 million.

(b), (c) and (d): Tourism sector comprises activities of several service providers like tour operators, travel agents, airlines and hotels. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion) have announced packages for the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal by way of concession under Excise Duty, Income Tax exemption and investment subsidy etc. for certain identified thrust industries, including Eco- Tourism industries set up in these States. Besides, the Ministry of Tourism provides assistance of upto Rs. 50 crore in the form of grant for large revenue generating tourism projects through the State Corporations under its plan scheme 'Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects'. Under its plan scheme 'Incentives to Accommodation Infrastructure', the Ministry provides assistance in the form of capital grant for budget category hotels.